

DAVID WU  
1ST DISTRICT, OREGON

510 CANNON BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3702  
TELEPHONE: (202) 225-0855

620 SW MAIN STREET  
SUITE 606  
PORTLAND, OR 97205  
TELEPHONE: (503) 326-2901  
(800) 422-4003

<http://www.house.gov/wu>

[david.wu@mail.house.gov](mailto:david.wu@mail.house.gov)



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3701

COMMITTEES:  
EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE  
EARLY CHILDHOOD, YOUTH AND FAMILIES  
EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE RELATIONS  
SCIENCE  
TECHNOLOGY  
SPACE AND AERONAUTICS  
VICE-CHAIR  
ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN CAUCUS

For Immediate Release

**CONGRESSMAN D W A**  
**P C FTF**  
***Hanford nuclear reactor called 'environmentally risky, fiscally wasteful and technologically unnecessary'***

Washington, DC – Congressman David Wu today announced that the Fast Flux Test Facility (FFTF) at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Richland, Washington will be permanently closed. Secretary of Energy Bill Richardson informed Congressman Wu early today that the facility would be closed. The move is expected to save taxpayers \$32 million per year and will allow for the clean up of the Hanford nuclear reactor.

"Closing FFTF is fiscally responsible and is a common sense solution," said Congressman Wu. "The \$32 million saved by permanently closing FFTF can now be diverted to the cleanup that is essential to the Northwest communities downstream to ensure environmental safety and clean drinking water."

FFTF is a 400-megawatt sodium cooled nuclear reactor that operated from 1982 to 1992. In 1992, the use of the facility was terminated and there was no mission for FFTF. When efforts to identify a long-term mission for the FFTF were unsuccessful, the Dept. of Energy placed the FFTF into standby.

Dept. of Energy Undersecretary Bill Magwood last year reported that the proposal to restart the FFTF lacked sufficient support from private industry and other federal agencies. An Environmental Impact Statement commissioned last year indicated that the preferred alternative is to permanently close the facility.

"After the use of FFTF was terminated in 1992, the reactor has been environmentally risky, fiscally wasteful and technologically unnecessary," said Congressman Wu.

Congressman Wu has urged the closure of FFTF in discussions with Secretary Richardson and last year wrote him a letter urging him to consider the permanent closure of FFTF (see attached).

A detailed timeline for FFTF closure will be available next week.

# # #